



## LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

December 18, 2007

The Honorable Board of Directors  
Los Angeles County  
Regional Park and Open Space District  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**ALLOCATE FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT CITIES EXCESS FUNDS  
FOR THE GLENDALE NARROWS RIVERWALK PROJECT  
AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF AN EXCESS FUNDS  
GRANT TO THE CITY OF GLENDALE  
(FIFTH DISTRICT – 3 VOTE MATTER)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Find the proposed actions exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, for the reasons cited herein.
2. Allocate Fifth Supervisorial District Cities Excess Funds in the amount of \$173,000 to the City of Glendale for the Glendale Narrows Riverwalk Project.
3. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District to award a grant to the City when applicable conditions have been met and to administer the grant as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified and Per Parcel Projects.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

Approval of the recommendations will allocate \$173,000 in Fifth Supervisorial District Cities Excess Funds to the City of Glendale for the construction of a recreational trail for pedestrians and bicyclists on the north bank of the Los Angeles River in Glendale across from Griffith Park. The half mile-long trail will be paved in asphalt and will include a staging area in a ½ acre park at the west end of the trail. There will be an adjacent equestrian staging area for equestrian traffic going to Griffith Park and the Los Angeles Equestrian Center. A second park area, one acre in size, will be located along the middle portion of the trail. The total cost for the project is \$1,619,100, which includes the \$173,000 above. The remaining \$1,446,100 is funded through a \$1,100,000 grant from the State of California River Parkways program to North East Trees in partnership with the City, \$235,600 in matching funds provided by North East Trees, and \$110,500 in matching funds provided by the City.

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. The City of Glendale has met this requirement.

It is also recommended that the Director of Parks and Recreation be authorized to award a grant to the City, when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications and consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, grantee compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the project, and to administer the grant under procedures previously approved by your Board.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

The proposed recommendations further the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goal No. 1 (Service Excellence), Goal No. 4 (Fiscal Responsibility), Goal No. 5 (Children and Families' Well-being), and Goal No. 6 (Community Services) by allocating Excess Funds for enhanced recreational opportunities along the Los Angeles River in the City of Glendale in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

Sufficient appropriation for the grant in the amount of \$173,000 is budgeted in the Fifth Supervisorial District portion of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining each fiscal year the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grant would be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District for eligible projects within cities.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director of Parks and Recreation would be authorized to award a grant when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

Your Board approved a Procedural Guide on June 17, 1997, to govern the administration of Regional Park and Open Space District grants for Specified and Per Parcel projects. This Procedural Guide would appropriately govern the administration of the recommended additional grant as well.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

A Grant Project Agreement will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director of Parks and Recreation and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 1997. The Project Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The recommended project will provide enhanced recreational opportunities along the Los Angeles River in the City of Glendale in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

The proposed actions are not subject to CEQA in that the actions do not meet the definition of a project according to Sections 15378 (b)(4)(5) of the State CEQA Guidelines, because the actions are administrative activities for government grants which by their terms do not involve any commitments to any specific projects which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

The Honorable Board of Directors  
December 18, 2007  
Page 4

All projects funded by the District are also required to comply with CEQA. The City of Glendale is the lead agency for the Glendale Narrows Riverwalk Project and as such, will prepare appropriate environmental documentation for the project.

**CONCLUSION**

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one conformed copy of this action to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects Division, and to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,



Russ Guiney  
Director, Parks and Recreation

RG:IV:LB:REGIONALPARKOPENSPPACEDISTRICT(Glendale Riverwalk BL)

c: Chief Executive Officer  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors (22)  
County Counsel